THE

Theatrical Observer;

AND

Daily Bills of the Play.

"Nothing extenuate nor set down aught in malice."

No. 697 *Wednesday, Feb.* 18, 1824. *Price* 1*d.*

Drury Lane Theatre.

THE Manager of this Theatre was determined to give, last night, variety enough in his entertainments. We had *Lodoiska* first; then, *Simpson and Co.*; and lastly, *The Cataract of the Ganges.* In the Romance of *Lodoiska*, there was pleasing music, agreeably executed by Mr. HORN and Miss POVEY; and there was the comic acting of Mr. HARLEY, who keeps the thing *alive* by very ingenious bye-play. But we should be accused of *bad taste*, if we forget to mention the *Horses*, and the *Conflagration.* We are, therefore, most happy to inform the public, that the *Quadrupeds* were most attentive to their respective characters, and made a most powerful impression on the—*boards*; and, also, that we never beheld a more correct or more brilliant display of innocent combustibles. In respect to *Simpson and Co.* there was some novelty in the operations of this well-established firm. This novelty consisted in the transformation of the leading tragic heroine into a representative of comedy-character. In short, Mrs. BUNN played *Mrs. Simpson*; being, as the play-bills informed us, "*her first appearance in Comedy.*"—we will add what, *we think*, the Manager should have added—"*and her only appearance in this department of the Drama.*" Really, it was injudicious to allow Mrs. BUNN to appear on this occasion. If it was with the lady's ready consent, we beg to assure her she has risked her reputation severely. Her figure, features, manner, voice—every thing is against her making the least point of success in Comedy. Mrs. BUNN must positively make up her mind to remain under the protection of *Melpomene.*—The comic muse will have nothing to do with her. The only part where her appearance on the Stage, as *Mrs. Simpson*, had any comic effect, was when her little, honest, simple, industrious spouse *Peter*, embraced her majestic form. The effect here, was ludicrous beyond conception. Laughter long and loud, was the natural consequence. But we beg to ask Mrs. BUNN, whether she seeks an enlargement of her professional reputation from the pantomimic effect resulting from a *contrast of figure*? If she does repeat the character of *Mrs. Simpson*, it may be for the benefit of the Theatre certainly, from the cause we have stated, but every one who sees her in this part, and has not previously seen her in Tragedy, will feel little inclination to behold her again in any character. Mr. TERRY'S *Peter Simpson* is very humorous, and far exceeds the comic vein of the

dialogue. Mr. BROWNE made a respectable *Bromley*—Mrs. W. WEST a delightful wife to him; and Miss SMITHSON represented the *attractive metal*, which drew the naughty husband to Harley Street, as truly in person as in manner. This Comic Piece terminated very successfully with the precise address of *Peter Simpson* in favour of his *establishment*. We took it into our heads that a great number of matronly-looking ladies appeared mightily pleased with this little Comedy; there was, undoubtedly, an air of satisfaction in many of their faces, which *we* interpreted as if they had said to themselves—"*This is a good lesson for* MY PETER."

The Cataract poured its splendours on the stage with astonishing effect.—The Duke of York was present.

Covent Garden Theatre.

THE new Opera was performed to a very good house last night.—Mr. SINCLAIR, Miss PATON, Miss M. TREE, and Miss LOVE, sang with their accustomed effect; and Mr. COOPER and Mr. FAWCETT very pleasantly supported what humor there is in the piece. Every one admires the acting as well as the singing of Miss TREE, in the character of the supposed petit-maitre.

The Farce of *The Poachers* followed, and occasioned some laughter.

OLYMPIC.—The entertainments of last night were well received by a pretty numerous audience. MIS. FITZWILLIAM, Miss JOHNSON, Miss GASKELL, Mr. WEST, and Mr. VINING, were highly applauded in their various songs in *Don Giovanni; or, the Spectre on Horseback*. In a comic Dance, Mr. JACKSON and Master FRAMPTON, had a unanimous encore. *Rochester* followed, and caused much laughter.

ADELPHI.—There was a numerous audience here last night to see T. DIBDEN's two dramas of *Tom Jones* and *The Heart of Mid-Lothian*. The audience, in general, seemed pleased and *awake* to the passing scene; but *one* gentleman we observed wrapt in profound slumber. No doubt he was overpowered with the fatigues of the day, or the juice of the grape. His nose sometimes kept tune with the bassoon of the orchester.

Mr. MACREADY appeared at the Belfast Theatre, for the first time on Monday se'nnight, in the character of *Virginius*. He has since played *Hamlet, Othello*, and *Macbeth*, with the success which his commanding talent deserves.—*British Press.*

☞ IT is respectfully suggested to our Friends to be careful, in going to the Theatre, not to be imposed on by an imitation of this Paper.

Printed & Published by E. THOMAS, Denmark-court, Exeter-'change, Strand.

Theatre Royal, Covent Garden.

This Evening a new Opera, called,

NATIVE LAND!

Or, the Return from Slavery.

The New Music composed by Mr BISHOP.
The Overture, and some selections from ROSSINI.

Aurelio di Montalto, (a noble Genose) Mr SINCLAIR,
Guiseppo, (a Senator) Mr W. FARREN, Marcello, Mr DURUSET,
Tancredi, (a Naval Commander) Mr COOPER,
Peregrino, (valet to Aurelio) Mr FAWCETT, Pierro, Mr MEARS,
Jacomo, Mr BARNES, Pantucchi, Mr EVANS,
Bonamo, Mr ATKINS, Isidro, Mr HORREBOW,
Luigi, Mr HENRY, Rocco, Mr RYALS, Myrtillo, Miss H. BODEN,

Clymante, (betrothed to Aurelio) Miss PATON,
Biondina, (disguised under the name of Cælio) Miss M. TREE,
Lavinia, (Sister to Aurelio) Miss BEAUMONT,
Zanina, (her woman) Miss LOVE Bridemaid, Miss HENRY,

The Chorusses by Mess. George, Henry, Ley, Longhurst, Norris,
I. S. & C. Tett, Tinney, Watts, &c.
Mesdms. Appleton, Dunn, Grimaldi, Henry, Pearce, &c.
Ballet by Mess. Austin, Collett, Grant, Heath, O'Brian, Ryals, Sutton
Mesdms. Bates, Boden, Griffiths, Hebbard, Louis,
Romer, Shotter, Thomasin, Twamley, Vedy, Vials, Vine, Wells.

ACT I.—The Mole of Genoa, (T. Grieve) A Chamber at Gueseppo (Pugh) The Palace of Tancredi, (W. Grieve)

ACT II.—A Garden upon the Roof of Clymante's Palace, (Grieve) Chamber at Gueseppo, (Pugh) Clymante's Palace, (Pugh)

ACT III.—Clymante's Palace & Garden by Moonlight, (Grieve) Chamber at Gueseppo, (Pugh) A Hall in Clymante's Palace, (T. Grieve) A Room in Tancredi's Palace, (Grieve) A Grand Hall in Clymante's Palace, (W. Grieve)

☞ HALF PRICE, *will be admitted at the end of the* Second Act.

After which, the Comic Pantomime of

Harlequin & Poor Robin;

Jack, the Miller, (afterwards Harlequin) Mr ELLAR.
Gaffer Gandy, (afterwards Pantaloon) Mr BARNES, Giles, Mr MEARS,
Poor Robin, or Poor Sir Bob, (the Astrologer) Mr J. ISAACS,
The Rat—the Cat—the Dog—by Debutants.
The Priest all Shaven and Shorn, (afterwards Clown) Mr J. S. GRIMALDI
Rosebud, the Maid all Forlorn, (afterwards Columbine) Mrs VEDY,
Squire Sap, (afterwards Dandy Lover) Mr DUCROW,

To-morrow, Native Land, with the Poachers.

Theatre Royal, Drury Lane.

This Evening, the Comedy of

The Hypocrite.

Dr. Cantwell, Mr DOWTON,
Maw-worm, Mr OXBERRY, Seward, Mr YOUNGE,
Sir John Lambert, Mr POWELL,
Darnley, Mr PENLEY, Tipstaff, Mr READ,
Col. Lambert, Mr WALLACK,
Old Lady Lambert, Mrs HARLOWE,
Charlotte, Mrs W. WEST, Betty, Miss GREEN,
Young Lady Lambert, Mrs ORGER.

After the Play will be exhibited The DIORAMA, from the last new Pantomime.

After which the Ballet of The

Halt of the Caravan.

Including the national Dances of
The Pas Russe—The Spanish Bolero.—A Hornpipe A L'anglaise, and a Grand Asiatic Pas de Deux.

Principal Dancers, Mr & Mrs O. BYRNE, Mr & Mrs NOBLE.

To conclude with the Farce of

The Spoil'd Child.

Old Pickle, Mr GATTIE, John, Mr W. H. WILLIAMS,
Thomas, Mr HONNOR, Little Pickle, Miss CLARA FISHER,
Tag, Mr HARLEY,
Susan, Miss PHILLIPS, Margery, Mrs WILLMOTT.
Miss Pickle, Mrs HARLOWE, Maria, Miss SMITHSON,

To-morrow, A New Way to Pay Old Debts, and Lodoiska.